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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: HILMAR NIKLAUS      ART UNIT: 3679  
SERIAL NO.: 09/868,159      EXAMINER: VICTOR L. MacARTHUR  
FILED: JUNE 22, 2001  
TITLE: DETACHABLE ASSEMBLY OF TWO ELEMENTS

PETITION UNDER RULE 136(a) FOR A THREE-MONTH EXTENSION

Hon. Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

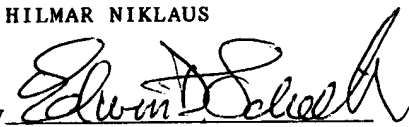
Dear Sir:

Applicant hereby petitions, pursuant to 37 C.F.R.  
§1.136(a), for a three-month extension, until April 6, 2004,  
in which to file a Response to the third Office Action, dated  
October 6, 2003, for the above-identified patent application.  
The shortened statutory period for response expired on Janu-  
ary 6, 2004. The requisite fee of \$475.00 (small entity) is  
enclosed.

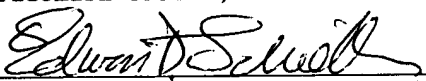
Respectfully submitted,

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By   
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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited this date  
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to: Hon. Commissioner for Patents, United States Patent and  
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Edwin D. Schindler, Reg. No. 31,459

April 5, 2004  
Date